

Minutes of the Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd Board meeting, 20 October 1997, 172 Skye Road, Frankston

PRESENT: A.R. Gourley (Chairman), Richard Greaves, David Griffiths, Greg Wishart and Lois Wishart

1. Resolved that the minutes be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting of 18 August 1997. M: I. Wishart S: R. Greaves CARRIED
2. Resolved that the minutes be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting of 25 September 1997. M: R. Greaves S: D. Griffiths CARRIED

Purchasing Victoria Co-operative Ltd

The Secretary reported that Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd was now a member of Purchasing Victoria Co-operative Ltd and that on the 16 October 1997 he had been co-opted to the Board

ACOSS Conference

The Secretary reported that there was an ACOSS Conference in Melbourne, 6-7 November 1997. It was agreed that the co-operative's brochure would be distributed at the conference.

Richard Greaves and A.R. Gourley said that they would attempt to make themselves available for the stall.

Auditor

The Chairman reported that he had not yet spoken to the Auditor.

United Energy

The Chairman reported that he had not spoken to United Energy about information they provided on surge insurance.

The Secretary reported that on 24 September 1997 Mr. Wayne Debernardi, Group Manager Customer Care, United Energy, had requested a meeting. Prior to this request a list of issues had been forwarded to Mr. Debernardi on 21 July 1997:

- Annual Report availability
- Appointment Guarantee
- Contestability preparation and education
- Customer complaints
- Disconnection policies and practices
- Energy efficiency programs
- Home Safety Kit
- Information leaflets
- Maintenance programs
- Outages and surges
- Renewable energy options
- Security deposits
- United Energy Web Site

It was agreed to offer the evenings of 3 and 5 November 1997 with a commencement time of 7.00 – 7.30 p.m. at 172 Skye Road, Frankston. It was also agreed to offer the evenings of 10 and 12 November 1997 as less preferred dates.

Richard Greaves suggested that co-generation, clean power, poles and environmental audits should be included on the list of issues to be discussed with United Energy.

The Secretary said that he would update the list of issues and circulate this to directors for further additions before it was forwarded to United Energy a week before the agreed meeting time and date.

It was agreed that Greg Wishart would contact Mr. Debernardi and negotiate a date and time and advise United Energy that a revised list of issues would be forwarded a week before the meeting.

Legislation

The Chairman reported that he would be attending the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd briefing on the new co-operative legislation on 22 October 1997.

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

The Secretary reported that on 16 October 1997 he had been elected Chairman of the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd.

3. That the meeting congratulate David on his election to the office of Chairman of the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd.

M. R. Greaves S. G. Wishart CARRIED

Newsletter

It was noted that only directors and one other member had paid the \$6.50 to subscribe to SEC News. It was agreed that another issue would be distributed to all members and that this would include a contribution by Richard Greaves on environmental audits.

It was agreed that the next newsletter should be distributed to members by 3 November 1997.

Co-operative Legislation

The Secretary informed the meeting that the new legislation applied from 1 October 1997 and that the co-operative had a two-year period to change its rules. The Secretary reported that he had ordered a disk copy of the model rules for a cost of \$2.

The Chairman noted that a newsletter subscription would meet the new active membership rule.

Members

It was agreed that directors would telephone all members to discuss the co-operative's progress and encourage their involvement.

It was agreed that the Secretary would prepare a checklist for directors and lists of members with names, addresses and telephone numbers for each director to contact.

Business Plan

The Chairman noted that the contribution from Richard Greaves had raised the fundamental question of what the co-operative was trying to do. He said that he had been exploring the possibility of the co-operative having stalls at markets and would provide a list of items that could be included on the stall.

NEXT MEETING: 7.30 p.m., 17 November 1997

AR Grouley 17/11/97